

REMARKS

In the final Office Action, the Examiner objected to the drawings, rejected claims 22-31, 33 - 39, and 43 - 45 as obvious over the Heiney reference in view of the Snyders reference, rejected claim 32 as obvious over Heiney and Snyders in view of the Porter reference, rejected claims 40 and 41 as obvious over Uematsu in view of the Heiney and Altreith references, rejected claim 42 as obvious over Uematsu and Heiney and Altreith and Goldsmith.

Drawing Objection

The drawing Figure 9 has been amended to include to change the reference character for the "EPE Print Processor" from 56 to 62 as suggested by the Examiner. The Replacement Sheet showing the drawing change was inadvertently not attached to the previous amendment. Approval of the drawing change is hereby requested.

35 USC §103(a)

The Heiney reference discloses a method of printing variable data and fixed data that utilizes a logical OR of the rasterized fixed data pages and rasterized variable data pages on a dot-by-dot basis in a collator program. (column 5, lines 51 – 61) The instructions on which variable data and fixed data is to be merged is contained in a bookticket as binary commands that are stored in a disk cache.

The reference to Snyders does not disclose more than is shown in Figure 8 of the present application and as described on page 19.

The Uematsu reference is discussed in the prior response, and those comments are incorporated herein by reference. The remaining references are noted.

New claims 46 – 48 are directed to an invention that is not shown in the cited art, whether taken individually or in combination. For example, pages 18 – 20 of the specification and the accompanying drawings shows an example of the invention claimed in the new claims.



Applicants submit that the invention as defined in the claims is patentably distinguished over the cited prior art.

Conclusion

Applicants respectfully request favorable reconsideration and allowance of the present application in view of the foregoing.

Respectfully submitted,

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on June 2, 2006.